

A GRAPHIC NOVEL ADAPTATION OF GYULA HERNÁDI'S

THE FORT



TIBOR CS. HORVÁTH & ERNŐ ZÓRÁD





DESERTED PORTS
RENOVATION INC.

CLEVER RUMOR, EVEN THOUGH IT
DOESN'T DISCLOSE ANYTHING AT
ALL. THOSE WHO ARE NOT
INFORMED WOULD MOST LIKELY
NEVER FIGURE OUT WHAT IT
STANDS FOR. AND WHAT IT IS THE
COMPANY REALLY DOES.

IT'S NOT A SECRET, GENTLEMEN.
THE COMPANY RUNS A BUSINESS
AIMING TO RE-VITALIZE THE
FOURNOIR OF GREECE BY OFFERING
SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENTS.

HOW? THIS SOUNDS EVEN
BETTER. AND SAFE EVEN LESS.

IT LOOKS
GAYS GOOD.



INDEED, BUT THEY MUST OFFER
SOMEWHAT BETTER BY OFFERING
THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR A TWO-
DAY LONG GAME IS NOT A SMALL
AMOUNT, YOU KNOW.



THE GAME WILL ONLY START
A WEEK FROM NOW.
GENTLEMEN, BE INFORMED,
OUR FACILITIES ARE AT YOUR
SERVICE FROM THE HOTEL
TO THE SHOOTING RANGE
AND THE RIDING HALL IN THE
MOUNTAINS AS WELL AND
FOLLOWING AFTER THE
GUNS WE'RE GOING TO
ORGANIZE A GRAND-SCALE
HUNT IN OUR FOREST.
THEREFORE I HOPES YOU
DON'T THINK THAT IT'S
TOO MUCH FOR.

NO PROBLEM, MRS.

AN EASY MISTAKE.
THE DIRECTRESS, I WELCOME YOU
ON BEHALF OF THE ENTIRE
COMPANY. PLEASE FOLLOW ME NOW.
WE MUST TAKE CARE
OF SOME FORMALITIES.

THE GUESTS ARE REQUIRED TO
SIGN A DECLARATION
ACCORDING TO WHICH IF THEY
WOULD SUFFER SOME
WOUNDS DURING THEIR STAY
HERE, NOBODY ELSE IS HELD
RESPONSIBLE.

TELL ME, MADAM, HOW MANY
PEOPLE USUALLY DIE IN A
GROUP?

UNFORTUNATELY THAT'S
A COMPANY SECRET, I CAN'T
TELL YOU. BUT I CAN ASSURE
YOU, GENTLEMEN, THAT
YOU'LL HAVE A GREAT TIME.



ARE YOU GOING TO THE SHOOTING RANGE MR. TABOR? I THINK I'D RATHER GO HOME READING THE GAZETTE AND ANNOYING ME

ACTUALLY? BUT WE CAN'T READ FO-



WHY? YOU DID I GAVE FOR SOMETHING ELSE... IN JUST INDEED DON'T WE ABOUT ACTUALLY WIN AS WELL. INDEED SEEMS LIKE AN AMBLE COMMANDER



I DON'T THINK WE COULD WIN THE COMPANY NEED T HE HIGHEST MOST DEDICED AND MOST EXPERIENCED RESEARCHER AGAINST US FOR EXAMPLE MAJOR HANSON USED TO BE CHAIRMAN (GENT HAND IN GROUND) THE PAPERS USED TO BE FULL OF REPORTS OF HIS CRUELITIES, AND HIS MEN ARE JUST AS DESPOTIC AND CRAZY AS HIM



THEY'RE ALL SO OSTENTRIOUSLY ANIMALS, OF THE LOOK OF THEM

IF I THINK ABOUT WHAT IT COULD BE WE COULD FOR US IN CASE THEY CAPTURE US-

YOU CAN RELAX ABOUT THAT, MR. LITZKE. THE SILENCE OF THE SHAME ARE VERY CLEAR ABOUT THE WAY WE CAN BE MOST TRUST CAPTURED WOMEN



I HEAR THAT THE GROUP OF THE SUBJECT CHOSE YOU AS THEIR COMMANDER. MR. GOWENSON CONGRATULATES YOU FOR STILL HAVE FIVE MORE DAYS TO PREPARE FOR THE GAME

WE'LL DO OUR BEST MR. MOUNDOAG. I ONLY NEED SOME MORE INFORMATION

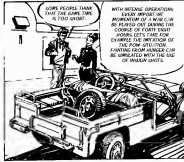


OUR PRIMARY CONCERN IS THAT WE'RE NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE AREA UNDER OUR OPPONENTS. IN OTHER WORDS THEY ARE PROFESSIONALS ON THEIR HOME TOWN

OUR EMPLOYEES ARE PROFESSIONALS, THAT IS TRUE BUT ANOTHER TEAM WAS ONLY FOURTEEN MEN AGAINST YOUR TEAM OF TWENTY



THEREFORE THE ODDS ARE EVEN EVEN IF WE TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THAT EACH OF YOU ARE WOMEN AND YOU ALSO HAVE THE KNOW TO FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH THE FIGHTING AREA LET'S DO A LITTLE BIT OF FIELD REVIEW RIGHT AWAY-









THE PLAYERS JUST STARE AT THE DEAD BODIES IN utter silence. THEY CAN'T BELIEVE THEM. NOBODY MOVES, EXCEPT FOR MR. HENRY WHO CAREFULLY LIFTS THE MACHINE GUN AND...



YOU DID THE RIGHT THING, MADAME. THIS MORPHINE WAS ALMOST GIVING US INTO A COMPLETE SUICIDE.



PEARLINEN GRABS THE SMALL RADIO TRANSMITTER AND TURNS IT ON A COUPLE OF MINUTES LATER.

DEAR GUEST, WHAT IS IT YOU WISH TO TALK ABOUT?



WE DON'T WANT TO PLAY ANY LONGER. LET'S FORGET THIS THING NOW.

UNFORTUNATELY WE CAN'T DO THAT. THAT WOULD BE AGAINST THE RULES, AND ALL OF YOU HAD YOUR ACCEPTANCE OF THEM. UNFORTUNATELY, YOU CAN ADMIT SUFFERING, REMAINING IN MIND THAT BY DOING SO, YOU MIGHT STILL PUT YOUR LIVES AT RISK.



THE HELICOPTER TAKES OFF AND DISAPPEARS IN THE DIRECTION OF THE CENTRAL BUILDINGS.

LET'S TRY TO THINK WHAT CAN WE DO.

FIRST OF ALL WE MUST CHECK WHETHER ALL THOSE WHO FELL IN THE ATTACK ARE STILL ALIVE OR NOT.



THE TWO VOLUNTEERS SOON RETURN WITH THE NEWS THAT ALL THREE OTHERS ARE DEAD.



I HAVE A SUGGESTION.

LET'S HEAR IT DOWNGOWN!



IT GUMM VAN DELFT STEPS UP
TO THE COMMANDER

THERE'S ONE THING I'M STILL
WORRIED ABOUT: WHAT IF THEY
TAKE YOU WIDE THE FORT.
CLOSE THE APPROVED GATE
AND THEN WE'LL HAVE NO WAY
TO GET IN?

I GOT AN IDEA,
GENTLEMEN

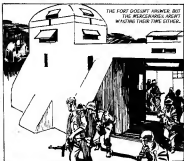


I'LL STAY OUTSIDE
OF THE LINE. THEIR HOUNDS STAY
SCREAMING THAT SHE CARRY
ME, AND POSING FOR SOMEONE TO
COME OUT AND HELP. LOOK FOR ME
WHEN THEY OPEN THE GATE TO
COME OUT AND HELP. I'LL BRING
MUSIC.
EXCELLENT. THEN WE
CAPTURE THE MERCENARY
AND THE REST IS EASY.

THE EIGHT PARTISANS DISAPPEAR
IN THE BUSH. MR. ARKAY GOES
TO THE LINE WHILE THE REST
FILL FIFTEEN OF THEM CAREFULLY
BREAK CLOSE TO THE FORT.
AND THEN.



THE FORT DOESN'T ANSWER, BUT
THE MERCENARIES AREN'T
WASTING THEIR TIME EITHER.



THEY CAREFULLY APPROACH THE
REDEERS IN A WIDE ARC FROM TWO
DIRECTIONS, AND.

YOU'RE SURROUNDED!
I ADVISE YOU TO
SURRENDER TO AVOID
ANY UNNECESSARY
BLOODSHED!



INTO THE
FORT! GO ON!















SURESHORE
YOUR RESERVES,
SCUMBAGS!

HEADING THE UNDIRECTED TELL
HARNESS AND HIS MEN THREW
AWAY THEIR WEAPONS. THE OTHER
FIRECRACKS APPEAR RIGHT BEHIND
VIN DELTY.



GET YOUR
COME ON



EXCELLENT JOB, VIN DELTY.
GIVE ME A BRIEF REPORT.

KITBRIACH NOW GET BUSY
BY JUNE HERMAN, THE BEST AND
THE WORST SPREAD OUT IN
THE FOREST. THEY THOUGHT
THEY WERE ON SAFE GROUND
BUT OUR BOY GOT
WE NEUTRALIZED THEM.



—SUNDROST REQUESTED
WE WHO NO OTHER OFFERS
BUT TO FINISH HIM
SHADOW AS WELL.



WE JUST FOUND OUT THAT YOU'RE NOT SO GREAT SOLDIER AFTER ALL, HANDED.

STOP BRAGGING, BORDOWITZ. IT WAS ME WHO I CHARGED IT WAS WHY THAT YOU COULD WIN.

THAT'S A STEPS LIKE YOU GIVE THE ORDER TO CLOSE THE DOOR. JUSTLY KREIBSCH WANTED TO SANDPAGE IT.



WHY DIDN'T YOU CHARGE OUT THE ORDER KREIBSCH WANTS YOU ARE NOT I WANTED TO ENJOY OUR REVENGE

YOU WON'T GET NO PRAISE FROM THE COMPANY FOR THIS.



6:45 PM THE GUN WILL BE OVER TOMORROW AFTERNOON AT 2 PM.

WE'LL HAVE SOME TIME FOR OUR FIGHTING.



CONGRATULATIONS WE'VE JUST DEFEATED A MUCH MORE HIGHLY TRAINED AND EXPERIENCED OPPONENT. I THANK YOU FOR YOUR BRAVE AND HEROIC ATTITUDES. OUR FIRST AND PRIMARY TASK IS TO AVENGE THE DEATH OF OUR COMRADE. BORDOWITZ WILL SET UP A MILITARY COURT.



I SHOT HIM OUT OF SELF DEFENCE.

HIS DINK BORDOWITZ WANTED TO ATTACK HICKELSON, NOT HIM.



A COUPLE OF MINUTES LATER.

BY MAJORITY VOTE, I DECLARE THE COURT HAS SENTENCED BORDOWITZ MURKHOOD TO DEATH. SENTENCE WILL BE CARRIED OUT IMMEDIATELY.



MERCY!



OBJECTION! I'M A PRISONER OF WAR...! THE GENEVA CONVENTION...!

YOU WERE ALL OUR PEOPLE FOR NO PARTICULAR REASON, OUT OF FUN AND WHATEVER YOU MUST BE WISED UP THE BACK OF THE ENEMY (AND YOU ARE?)



WHAT DO YOU USUALLY DO WITH PRISONERS OF WAR, NEVER?

I GET THEM FREE.

HE'S FULL OF SHIT HE USED TO BE ONE OF THE MOST BLOOD-THIRSTY WHITES IN AMERICA!



DOROSWICKY SENTENCED THE COMMANDER OF THE REBELS TO ONE HUNDRED LASHES. HIS FOLLOWERS VOLUNTEERED TO CARRY OUT THE SENTENCE.

GOD HAVE MERCY ON YOU IF YOU END UP IN MY HANDS!



I WON'T MARRY. IT'S POSSIBLE THAT I MAY EVEN HAVE TO PLAY, BUT I'LL NEVER END UP IN YOUR HANDS.



CONSIDER WE STILL HAVE TWENTY MORE HOURS. I WANT SOME SUGGESTIONS HOW TO USE THE REMAINING TIME.

I HAD ENOUGH OF THE WHOLE THING. I'M TIRED, SICKY AND HUNGRY. LET'S STOP IT.

IT WAS ONLY BETTER END WHILE IT WAS STILL DANGEROUS. NOW THAT THE DANGER IS GONE, I'M BORED OF IT.

YOU'RE RIGHT. WE ATTACKED, WE RETREATED. WE WERE TEMPORARILY DEFEATED AS WELL. WE WERE FORTIFIED, AND THEN WE WERE FORTIFIED, AND THEN WE WERE THE ONLY FORTIFIED. THEY KILLED OUR COMMANDER, BUT WE EXECUTED HIS MURDERER. WHAT'S LEFT?



WE WON AND THAT'S ALL AND
PEOPLE STOP PLAYING CHESS
AFTER THE CHECKMATE.

BUT THE MAJOR VICTORY DOESN'T
COUNT AS A CHECKMATE IN THIS
GAME. IT'S THE MENSURANCE AND
HUMILIATION I CAN ONLY BE THE
VICTOR UNTIL A PM TOMORROW.
AFTER THAT IT'S GONE TO BE A POOL
TO STOP NOW.



THE COMMANDER CALLS FOR A NOTE. THE RESULT...

FOURTEEN OF US WANT TO STOP
THE GAME THIS IS THE REALITY.
ALL GO AND MAKE CONTACT
WITH THE COMPANY NOW.



THAT BOYIE A.M. DOBSONSKY,
BUT WE CAN'T ALTER THE RULES
OF THE GAME BUT YOU HAVE
MORE THAN ENOUGH RECIPIENTS
AT YOUR DISPOSAL.

IT'S NOT
SUCH A BAD
DEA.



WHAT DO YOU NEED TO
DO WITH THAT GUY?

YOU'RE TO SURVIVE
THE FATE OF OPERATORS.
MOVE ON, OUTSIDE!



THE SITUATION HAD CHANGED I
AT THE CENTRAL HALL IN THE
MEANTIME, VAN DELFT AND
SIX OTHERS DISARMED THE REST
OF THE PLAYERS.

IT'S MY TURN TO RUN
NOW - DON'T YOU EVER END UP
IN MY HANDS, VAN DELFT!

YOUR EARLIEST CHANCE FOR
THAT WILL BE AT A PM
TOMORROW. YOU'RE LUCKY,
I KNOW I HAD YOU,
DOBSONSKY. AND
REARWARDS JUST GAVE ME
A GOOD IDEA, YOU'LL SLEEP
WHILE WE'LL KEEP ON PLAYING.



HERE YOU GO,
SWALLOW IT.

AT LEAST
GIVE US A BLANKET.

NO, YOU WON'T GET
NOTHING.

BASTARDS!



AFTER ALL, FOURTEEN PLAYERS
HAVE FALLEN ASLEEP...

I HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT'S
COMING TO YOU NOW!

OUR FRIENDS WILL FIND YOU
EVEN IF YOU HIDE AT
THE END OF THE WORLD,
AND THEY'LL BRUSH
YOUR PAGES.

THE PLAYERS GATHER. A COUPLE OF MINUTES MORE AND THE HOORN SIGNAL IS HEARD. THE HUNT BEGINS.



GREETINGS TO THE VICTOR.

THANK YOU, MRS. REYNOLDS.



YOU KNOW, THIS VICTORY IS A BIG THING. ACTUALLY I'VE BEEN OVERSEEING THIS BUSINESS FOR A LONG TIME, BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN A GUEST TEAM THAT WON.



WHAT DID YOU DO AFTER YOU GAVE US THE SEDATIVE?

NOT MUCH. HE SOON FIGURED OUT THAT IT WAS FOOLISHNESS TO OVERSIEGE THE DELUSION HE ALREADY EXPERIENCED EVERYTHING HE COULD. SO HE GAVE SEDATIVES TO THE MERCENARIES FIRST, AND THEN HE WENT TO SLEEP OURSELVES AS WELL.



I WAS THINKING THAT A GAME LIKE THIS COULD BE ORGANIZED ELSEWHERE AS WELL. WE WOULDN'T EVEN NEED MERCENARIES. WE COULD JUST GET UP TWO TEAMS USING EXPERIENCED, BATTLE-HARDENED FOLKS. I ACTUALLY HAVE A SUITABLE SITE FOR THE GAME ON MY ESTATE.

IS THAT AN INVITATION?



I HOPE YOU'LL DECIDE TO OPEN ONE OF TWO DAYS HERE WE CAN HELP. I WANT TO ASK FOR YOUR ADVICE ON HOW WE COULD IMPROVE THE GAME RULES FOR THE FURTHER ENJOYMENT OF OUR GUESTS.



A HAWK IS HERE TO OPEN. NEW HORN HAWKING. HE SAYS HE CAME FROM THE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE.



AM ENTERTAINING SOME GUESTS. DO PLEASE MAKE IT QUICK IF YOU CAN.

I MUST ASK YOU TO COME WITH US. AND I HOPE WE DON'T HAVE TO USE FORCE TO CARRY OUT OUR DUTY.





TO THE WALL QUICKLY! WHOEVER
REDSHOES WILL GET A BULLET



YOU SEE, THEY ARE
PROFESSIONALS. IT'S NOT
THAT EASY TO SEND
THEM OFF THE FIELD.



YOU STAND BY THE WALL
AS WELL, AND RAISE YOUR
HANDS

STOP JOKING!
I'M REPRESENTING THE GREEK
STATE HERE



I'M NOT JOKING TODAY.
YOU REPRESENT A KIND OF GREEK
STATE HERE THAT IS THREATENING
ME WITH A TRAIL, BUT ARE YOU
SURE THAT THIS VERY SAME STATE
WOULDN'T BE REPRESENTING MY
PRINCIPLES VERY SOON?



DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE POINT OF
OUR GAME ACTUALLY IS? THINK
ABOUT IT. WHOEVER WANTS TO
FIGHT A WAR SIMPLY COMES HERE.
ONCE HERE, THEY CAN WAGE WAR
FOR TWO DAYS, OVER AND OVER
AGAIN.

FOR FIFTEEN
THOUSAND
DOLLARS



THAT'S RIGHT FOR FIFTEEN
THOUSAND DOLLARS. WE HAVE
A LIST OF ALL THE RICH FAMILIES
IN THE WORLD. BASICALLY THESE
FAMILIES ARE IN COMPLETE
CONTROL OF WORLD POLITICS
AND IF WE COULD SOMEHOW Wipe
OUT ALL THE ADDRESSES FROM
THEM...

THEN THERE WOULDN'T BE
ANYMORE WARS, RIGHT?
ARE YOU REALLY THIS NAÏVE?



YOU STARTED A HOPELESS
ENTERPRISE, EVEN IF YOUR
INTENTIONS WERE GOOD.
WARS ARE ECONOMIC
NECESSITIES. BY CALLING
ON YOU TO ORDER YOUR
SOLDIERS TO HAND IN
THEIR WEAPONS TO THE
POLICE.

OF COURSE, AFTER
ALL, IT WAS JUST
A GAME.



JUST A MOMENT, MR. PUBLIC PROSECUTOR, IN THE NAME OF OUR GUESTS, I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS OUR SUPPORT TO MRS. RICHARDSON.



THANK YOU, MR. DOBROVSKI. PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR TODAY'S INCIDENT. I HOPE THAT NO SITUATION LIKE THIS WILL OCCUR IN THE FUTURE AND THAT YOU'LL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO FULLY REINTEGRATE YOURSELF IN THE COMPANY'S FACILITIES.

IF YOU HADN'T TO REED OUR TESTIMONY AT COURT, WE'RE AT YOUR SERVICE.



DEPARTING WITH THE DIRECTOR'S AND THE MERCHANTS, AND AS SOON AS THE CARDS LEAVE THE SITE.

THIS IS EAGLE CALLING DOWD.



THIS IS DOWD HERE. I'M RECEIVING THE BROADCAST STOP AT THE 6 KM SIGN.



PLEASE, MAJOR, WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS? BY WHAT RIGHT DOES THE MILITARY GET INVOLVED WITH POLICE AFFAIRS?

BY THE SPECIAL ORDER OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE.





THAT'S BULLSHIT! I CAN ORGANIZE ANYTHING THAT'S NEEDED. YOU'LL SOON REGRET IT IF YOU KILL ME. JUST TELL ME WHAT IT IS YOU WANT I CAN DO ANYTHING!

RELEASE HER, SERGEANT



THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE WISHED TO ORGANIZE AN ARMED DIVISION AGAINST COMMUNISTS AND QUEERLASS IN THE AREA OF THE FORT SYSTEM THE GREEK GREEN BEREFS

I CAN DO THAT THE HERCOWARDS SIGNED A TWO YEAR CONTRACT. ILL CONVINCE THEM TO ACCEPT THE SERVICE OFFERED BY THE STATE. THEY ADORE ME, THEY WOULD DO ANYTHING FOR ME.



ALL RIGHT WE'LL INCORPORATE ALL OF YOU INTO THE ARMY. YOU'LL GET THE RANK OF CAPTAIN, AN ORGANIZER, AND YOUR MEN WILL BE LIEUTENANTS AS TRAINERS. CAN YOU CONVINCE THEM TO ACCEPT IT?

OF COURSE! JUST SEND MAJOR NAWES HERE, AND YOU'LL SEE WHAT HE SAID



WHY DID I PLAY THIS GAME WITH ME?

IT WAS NECESSARY. WE THOUGHT YOU WERE SOME ANY-WAY PROMISE OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT HE HAD TO TEST YOUR SINCERITY.



CAUTION YOUR MAN THAT IN CASE HE HAS ANY SECOND THOUGHTS WE'LL HAND HIM OVER TO THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR AND MURDERED ARE NOT TAKEN LIGHTLY.

LET ME TAKE CARE OF THE HERCOWARDS



IS HARVED NORTHERN?

FROM NOW ON, HE'S GREEK

THE END.



ERNŐ ZÓRÁD

(16 NOVEMBER 1911 – 8 APRIL 2004)

HUNGARIAN COMIC BOOK ARTIST ERNŐ ZÓRÁD WAS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT AND INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED CREATORS WHILE HIS COUNTRY WAS UNDER COMMUNIST RULE. HE WAS MOSTLY ACTIVE AS A BOOK ILLUSTRATOR AND WITH THIS EXPERIENCE STARTED ADAPTING MANY LITERARY NOVELS INTO COMIC BOOK ADAPTATIONS.

ERNŐ ZÓRÁD WAS BORN IN 1911 IN BALASSAGYARMAT. HE STUDIED FOR TWO YEARS AT THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF ARTS AND CRAFTS, BUT QUIT AFTERWARDS. HE WAS EMPLOYED BY BARN ESON WALLBURG AS A PAINTER OF HUNTING SCENES. IT WAS ONLY AFTER 1945 WHEN HE BEGAN ILLUSTRATING PERIODICALS. HE STARTED WORKING FOR MAGYAR IFJÚSÁGI LAPKADÓ, WHICH SPARKED OFF A GRAPHIC CAREER AT THE PUZZLE/COMICS MAGAZINE FÜLES WHICH WOULD LAST FOR FOUR DECADES. BETWEEN 1952 AND 1958 HE PAINTED IMAGES FOR SLIDE-FILMS BASED ON POPULAR NOVELS SUCH AS R.E. RASPE'S 'THE ADVENTURES OF BARON MÜNCHHAUSEN', JONATHAN SWIFT'S 'GULLIVER'S TRAVELS' AND MIGUEL DE CERVANTES' 'DON QUIXOTE'. FOR A LONG WHILE THE MAN HAD NO HIGH OPINION ABOUT COMICS. UNTIL 1964 THE FEW COMICS HE MADE LOOK MORE LIKE ROUGH SKETCHES, COMPARED WITH HIS LATER WORKS.

HIS FIRST SIGNIFICANT COMIC BOOK WORK, 'WINNETOU', SAW ZÓRÁD PLACE SPEECH BALLOONS INTO PANELS FOR THE FIRST TIME. THIS KARL MAY ADAPTATION WAS PUBLISHED IN THE MAGAZINE PÁJTÁS. IN 1964, FÜLES PUBLISHED 'FEKETE GYÉMÁNTOK' ('BLACK DIAMONDS', A COMIC BOOK ADAPTATION OF JÓKAI MÓR'S NOVEL), WHICH BEARS ALL THE CHARACTERISTICS OF HIS STYLE. WITH HIS DETAILED AND TECHNICALLY ACCURATE DRAWINGS, DIVIDED IN DYNAMIC PAGE COMPOSITIONS ZÓRÁD SET A HIGH STANDARD FOR ALL HUNGARIAN COMICS ARTISTS WHICH FOLLOWED. BY INSERTING CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHS AND ILLUSTRATIONS INTO PANELS HE PIONEERED PHOTO COMICS IN HIS COUNTRY. HE ORIGINALLY FOLLOWED SCRIPTS WRITTEN BY TIBOR CS. HORVÁTH, JÓZSEF HUNYADY AND PÉTER KUCZKA. FROM 1975 ON HE DID THE SCRIPTWORK HIMSELF.



ZÓRÁD'S COMICS WERE PUBLISHED IN MANY EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. HIS MAIN WORKS ARE SÁNDOR PETŐFI'S 'JÁNOS VITÉZ' ('JOHNNY CORNCOB', 1964), JÓZSEF HUNYADY'S 'A FEKETE LOVAG' (1968), KENNETH ROBERTS' 'AZ ÉSZAKNYUGATI ÁTJÁRÓ' ('NORTHWEST PASSAGE', 1972), KÁLMÁN MIKSZÁTH'S 'ÚJ ZÉLÁNDSZ' (1977), JENŐ HELYI'S 'A III-ES' (1980) AND EDMOND ROSTAND'S 'CYRANO DE BERGERAC' (1982). IN 1980 THE ARTIST STARTED MAKING A SERIES OF WATERCOLOUR PAINTINGS WHICH DEPICT THE INTIMATE ATMOSPHERE OF TABÁN, A DISTRICT NOT FAR FROM THE CITY BUGA (NOWADAYS BUDAPEST), WHICH HAD BEEN DEMOLISHED IN THE 1930S. THE POLYMATHEM ARTIST WAS ALSO A GIFTED SINGER AND PIANO PLAYER. ZÓRÁD WAS THE ONLY HUNGARIAN COMICS ARTIST WHO REMAINED POPULAR AND RESPECTED THROUGHOUT HIS ENTIRE CAREER. AS EARLY AS 1947 HE HAD HIS FIRST EXHIBITION IN BUDAPEST. AT THE INTERNATIONAL CARICATURE EXHIBITION IN VIENNA (1956) HE RECEIVED AN AWARD. IN 2000 HE WAS HONORED WITH THE ORDER OF MERIT OF THE HUNGARIAN REPUBLIC (OFFICER GRADE). LATE IN HIS CAREER, AT THE AGE OF 85, HE STILL SHOWED HIS SKILL WITH 'DIE VERSCHWUNDENE MINIATUR' (1997), AN ADAPTATION OF ERICH KÄSTNER'S EPHONYMOUS NOVEL. LEAVING BEHIND MORE THAN 300 COMICS, HE PASSED AWAY AT THE AGE OF 93, ON 8 APRIL 2004, IN BUDAPEST.

BIOGRAPHY BY FERENC KISS & SZABOLCS KISS
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